The Listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of electrical power distribution or control signal distribution suitable for a substantially underwater system, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of retrievable substantially autonomous modules ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ for receiving and acting on fluid mixture, module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ and a host facility ~~(6)~~, each module having a module based part of the module isolating means within the module and the host facility having a host facility based part of the module isolating means, the host facility and the modules being connected in series so as to form a circuit, the host facility providing power or control signals to all of the modules;

isolating at least one module by operation of ~~the~~ two of said parts of said module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~; and

removing the isolated at least one module without cutting off the supply of power or control signals to any of the remaining modules of the system.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, including a plurality of series connected sub-systems ~~(4,5)~~, each including a plurality of said modules ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ connected in series, the step of isolating the at least one retrievable module by module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ not cutting off the supply of power or control signals to the remaining modules.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein each module based part ~~(21a...h)~~ of the module isolating means includes two switches in series relationship, each switch being on opposite sides of connection means ~~(27)~~ to an electrical load ~~(23,24,25,26)~~ of the module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~, and the host facility based part ~~(15,16)~~ of the module isolating means includes a switch in each of the two electrical connections ~~(9)~~ between the host facility ~~(6)~~ and the modules and wherein the step of isolating at least one module involves the operation of two of said switches.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein one module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ or a plurality of serially adjacent modules constituting a removable part of the system are isolated and removed.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the step of isolating the removable part of the system involves operation of serially adjacent parts of the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ on opposite sides of the removable part.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the parts of the module isolating means operated are both module based parts ~~(21b,21h)~~ thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the parts of the module isolating means operated comprise a module based part ~~(21c)~~ thereof and a host facility based part ~~(15)~~ thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each module includes a first portion ~~(20a...h)~~ of a disconnectable electrical power connector means and engages a location ~~(11)~~ having a complementary second portion ~~(22a...h)~~ of the electrical power connector means and wherein removal of the at least one module

involves removing it from its associated location thereby disengaging the complementary portions of the electrical power connector means.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, including the further steps of replacing the at least one removed module with a replacement module and operating the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h))~~ to restore series power distribution or control signal distribution throughout the system.

Claim 11 (original): A method as claimed in claim 10, including the further steps of removing at least one different module from the system using the method according to claim 1.

Claim 12 (previously amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method is for electrical power distribution and control signal distribution.

Claim 13 (previously amended): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the system ~~(1)~~ is substantially underwater.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the sub-systems ~~(4,5)~~ are on a seabed.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A system comprising a plurality of retrievable substantially autonomous modules ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ for receiving and acting on fluid mixture, module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h),~~ and a host facility ~~(6)~~, each module having a module based part of the module isolating means and the host facility having a host facility based part of the module isolating means, the host facility and the modules being connected in series so as to form a circuit, the host facility being arranged to

provide power or control signals to all of the modules~~,~~ and the series connections, and ~~the~~ two of said parts of said module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ being arranged such that isolating at least one module ~~(12,13)~~ so that it or they can be removed does not cut off the supply of power or control signals to any of the remaining modules of the system.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, including a plurality of series connected sub-systems ~~(4,5)~~, each including a plurality of said modules ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ connected in series.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim ~~17~~ 15, wherein each module based part ~~(21a...h)~~ of the module isolating means includes two switches in series relationship, each switch being on opposite sides of connection means ~~(27)~~ to an electrical load ~~(23,24,25,26)~~ of the module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ and the host facility based part of the module isolating means includes a switch ~~(15,16)~~ in each of the two electrical connections ~~(9)~~ between the host facility ~~(6)~~ and the modules, at least one module being adapted to being isolated by involving the operation of two of said switches.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim ~~17~~ 15, wherein one module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ or a plurality of serially adjacent modules constitute a removable part of the system to be isolated and removed.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 19, wherein serially adjacent parts of the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ on opposite sides of the removable part are adapted to isolate the removable part of the system.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 20, wherein the parts of the module isolating means are both module based parts ~~(21b,21h)~~ thereof.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 20, wherein the parts of the module isolating means operated comprise a module based part ~~(21c)~~ thereof and a host facility based part ~~(15)~~ thereof.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein each module includes a first portion ~~(20a...h)~~ of a disconnectable electrical power connector means and the system including a location ~~(11)~~ having a complementary second portion ~~(22a...h)~~ of the electrical power connector means for the first portion to engage so that the removal of the at least one module involves removing it from its associated location thereby disengaging the complementary portions of the electrical power connector means.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ is adapted to restore series power distribution or control signal distribution throughout the system when the at least one removed module has been replaced with a replacement module.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the host facility is arranged to provide power and control signals to all of the modules, the series connections and the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ being arranged such that isolating at least one module ~~(12,13)~~ so that it or they can be removed does not cut off the supply of power and control signals to any of the remaining modules of the system.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the module isolating means ~~(15,16,21a...h)~~ comprises switchgear for electrically isolating at least one module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, including control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~ for substantially controlling operation of the module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~.

Claim 28 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the at least one module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ includes the control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~.

Claim 29 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~ is at least substantially an electrical control means or the control means comprises a completely electrical control means.

Claim 30 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the host facility ~~(6)~~ is in communication with the control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~.

Claim 31 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the at least one module includes the control means, and the host facility ~~(6)~~ is in communication with the control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~ via the electrical power connector means ~~(20a...h,22a...h)~~.

Claim 32 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the host facility ~~(6)~~ is in communication with the control means ~~(23',24',25',26')~~ via control connector means separate from the electrical power connector means ~~(20a...h,22a...h)~~.

Claim 33 (original): A system as claimed in claim 32, wherein the control connector means is wet mateable.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the electrical power connector means ~~(20a...h,22a...h)~~ is wet mateable.

Claim 35 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein one portion of the electrical power connector means is a plug ~~(22a...h)~~ and the other portion is a socket ~~(20a...h)~~.

Claim 36 (previously amended): A system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the system is substantially underwater.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 36, wherein the host facility ~~(6)~~ is not underwater.

Claim 38 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the sub-systems ~~(4,5)~~ are on a seabed.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A system as claimed in claim 23, wherein at least one module ~~(12,13,17,18)~~ includes a transformer to which the first portion ~~(20a...h)~~ of the electrical power connector means is connected.